

(3c) 3. A compound according to claim 1 wherein A^{n+} is Na^{+} .

6 4. A compound according to claim 1 wherein ${\rm A}^{\rm n+}$ is ${\rm Mg}^{\rm 2+}$.

5. A process for the preparation of a compound of the formula $\begin{array}{c}
\text{OCH}_3 \\
\text{CH}_3
\end{array}$ $\begin{array}{c}
\text{OCH}_3 \\
\text{CH}_2
\end{array}$ $\begin{array}{c}
\text{OCH}_3
\end{array}$ $\begin{array}{c}
\text{N}^n + \\
\text{N}^n + \\$

(

wherein ${\sf R}^1$ is an alkyl group containing 1-4 carbon atoms characterized by reacting omeprazole of the formula

with a base capable of releasing the cation

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to give a salt of the formula I, which salt is thereafter isolated.

- 6. A process according to claim 5 wherein the base releasing the cation Aⁿ⁺ is NaOH, NaNH₂, or NaNR₂ wherein R is an alkyl group containing 1-4 carbon atoms.
- 7. A process according to claim 5 wherein the base releasing the cation A^{n+} is $Mg(0R)_2$ wherein R is an alkyl group containing 1-4 carbon atoms.
 - 8. A pharmaceutical composition containing as active ingredient a compound according to any of claims 1-4.
- 9. A compound as defined in any of dlaims 1-4, for use in inhibiting gastric acid secretion in mammals and man.
 - 10. A compound as defined in any of claims 1-4, for use as gastrointestinal cytoprotecting agent in mammals and man.

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- 11. A compound as defined in any of claims 1-4, for use in the treatment of gastrointestinal inflammatory diseases in mammals and man.
- 12. A method for inhibiting gastric acid secretion by administering to mammals and man a compound as defined in any of claims 1-4.
 - 13. A method for the treatment of gastrointestinal inflammatory diseases in mammals and man by administering a compound as defined in any of claims 1-4.

14. A method for providing gastrointestinal cytoprotective effects in mammals and man by administering a compound as defined in any of claims 1-4.

5 15. Compounds, pharmaceutical proparations, processes for their preparation, and their medicinal use, as claimed in claims 1-14 and substantially as described.

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